

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

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FRANKFURT FOR GAO EDER

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TAGS: MPOL, NATO, OTRA

SUBJECT: GAO REVIEW: ITALY

REF: 77 STATE 282928

1. SUMMARY: ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES ARE WILLING TO MEET WITH GAO TEAM. ACTION REQUESTED: DATES FOR VISIT TO ITALY, END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY HAS SPOKEN TO APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN MINISTRIES OF DEFENSE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INDUSTRY AND WITH FIAT'S ROME OFFICE ABOUT THE PLANNED GAO REVIEW OF CO-DEVELOPMENT AND CO-PRODUCTION EXPERIENCES. ALL OFFICIALS CONTACTED EXPRESSED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH GAO OFFICIALS. THE ITALIANS HOPE THE DISCUSSIONS WILL DEVELOP INTO A USEFUL EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS ON

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PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN THE PAST AND ON FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR CO-OPERATION.

3. EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT GAO VISITORS MEET WITH THE FOLLOWING ITALIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS:

A. MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, CENTRAL OFFICE OF MILITARY READINESS

AND PROCUREMENT, DIRECTOR, ADM. FRANCESCO IZZO, AND HIS ASSISTANT COL. GIUSEPPE SPAMPINATO. EMBASSY OFFICER HAS DISCUSSED GAO VISIT WITH SPAMPINATO WHO PICKED UP QUICKLY ON AGENDA TOPICS SUCH AS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, LICENSES, PATENTS, ROYALTIES, ETC.

B. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, COUNSELLOR GIUSEPPE SCAGLIA. SCAGLIA'S OFFICE HANDLES ECONOMIC AFFAIRS FOR EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA IN THE MINISTRY. SCAGLIA WOULD BE INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING THE RECORD OF ITALIAN-AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN-AMERICAN CO-DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION.

C. MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, OFFICE OF ATLANTIC PACT AFFAIRS, COUNSELLOR CUZZONI, CUZZONI'S OFFICE IS CONCERNED WITH CO-DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY. HE WILL BE PLEASED TO GO INTO TECHNICAL MATTERS.

4. FIAT REPRESENTATIVE INROME ASSURED EMBASSY OFFICER THAT HIS COMPANY WOULD BE PLEASED TO MEET WITH GAO VISITORS, BUT SUGGESTED THAT A VISIT TO THE COMPANY'S TURIN HEADQUARTERS RATHER THAN ROME WOULD BE MORE FRUITFUL. EMBASSY AGREES. IF THIS SUGGESTION MEETS WITH GAO APPROVAL, WE WILL INFORM THE AMERICAN CONSULATE IN TURIN AND THEY WILL COORDINATE ARRANGEMENTS WITH FIAT.

5. FINALLY, THE EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST A MEETING WITH OFFICIALS OF THE AGUSTA FIRM (COSTRUZIONI AERONAUTICHE GIOVANNI AGUSTA). AGUSTA HAS HAD A WELL-KNOWN AND SUCCESSFUL RECORD IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CO-PRODUCING HELICOPTERS WITH BELL AND OTHER PRODUCTS WITH OTHER AMERICAN FIRMS, INCLUDING BOEING.

6. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE GAO COMMENTS ON PROPOSED MEETINGS AND TIME FRAME FOR THE ITALIAN PORTION OF THE VISIT. GARDNER UNQTE VANCE

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